Indigenous Technology in Telecommunication Sector

97. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of electronic telephone exchanges installed in rural areas by the end of March, 1988;

(b) how many electronic exchanges are proposed to be installed by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) what percentage of the technology used for electronic exchanges is indigenous one; and

(d) by when Government propose to use exclusive Indian technology in telephone exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) 47 electronic exchanges have been commissioned by the end of March, 1988.

(b) It is propsed to commission about 1500 more electronic exchanges in the rural areas of the country by the end of 7th Five Year Plan.

(c) Rural exchanges utilise wholly indigenous technology.

(d) (i) Electronic exchanges to be commissioned in the rural areas will employ indigenous technology developed by C-DOT (128 Port RAXs and TRC/ITI (Mini ILT and 9 line ESAX etc.) which are to be introduced progressively in the rural network.

(ii) Electronic exchanges of medium capacity and large capacity utilise imported technology. The equipment for large size exchanges is being manufactured at the Mankapur factory of ITI.

(iii) Centre for Development of Telematics is developing medium size and large size electronic exchanges equipment using indigenous technology. Production of this equipment will be taken up by M/s. ITI at Bangalore after the development work is completed.

Coal reserves in Ib Valley

98. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate total coal deposits, gradewise, as on 31st March, 1988 in the Ib Valley Coal fields in Orissa;

(b) the steps taken for the development of coal reserves in Ib Valley Coal field of Orissa; and

(c) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) As per regional exploration carried out by Geological Survey of India, as on 1.1.88, Ib Valley Coal field of Orissa, has coal reserves of 16808.12 million tonnes. The details are given below:—

Type of Coal	Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
Gondwana Coals	2148.81	6463.75	8195.56	16808.12

(b) and (c) The working mines of Ib Valley Coalfield produced 4.04 million tonnes of coal in 1987-88. In addition to the above working mines, 5 new coal mining projects have been planned to exploit the